



**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING COUNCIL
PUBLIC POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES**

March 3, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
1740 West Adams, Conference Room 204
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A standing committee meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) was convened on March 3, 2011 at the DDPC, 1740 West Adams, Conference Room 204, Phoenix, Arizona 85012. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the DDPC.

Members Present	
Leslie Cohen, Chair, Teleconference	Karla Phillips – Teleconfernece
Colette Chapman, Teleconference	Chuck Ryan
Monica Cooper, Teleconference	Rosemarie Strout
Joyce Millard Hoie, Teleconference	
Staff/Guests Present	Members Absent
Larry Clausen, Executive Director	Elmer Saufkie
Marcella Crane, Contracts Manager	

A. Call to Order

Leslie Cohen welcomed everyone to the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC or Council) Public Policy Standing Committee meeting. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

B. Review of Minutes

Leslie Cohen asked for a review the minutes of the October 15, 2010 Public Policy Standing Committee. Due to some members not receiving the minutes prior to the meeting, Chairperson Cohen tabled review of the minutes until the next meeting.

C. Applying New Vision, Mission and Value Statements to Policy Activities

Larry Clausen, Executive Director, discussed the importance of tailoring the activities of the Public Policy Standing Committee to fit within the new vision, mission and value statements that were created at the Annual Retreat and which will soon be finalized. Discussion about this topic included thoughts that the Committee has to develop a plan that reflects Council prerogatives while allowing Council staff to act within a framework of pre-approved activities without having to regularly consult with the Committee and Council. Having a plan will also allow Council staff (on behalf of the Council) to respond to constituents who may make requests for the Council to represent issues, so that inquiries can be firmly answered with either support or an explanation that the request doesn't fit within the vision,

values, mission, and the current State Plan. The process for developing the plan will begin and coincide with the development of the new 5 Year State Plan.

D. Responding to Constituent Question: SB1519

Larry described a recent telephone call received from a consumer, who as a parent of children with developmental disabilities, expressed concern about SB1519. This bill would end the State of Arizona involvement in Medicaid, which in Arizona is known as AHCCCS. The parent was fearful that if passed, necessary medical services would be reduced or eliminated, and asked what steps the Council was taking to oppose the bill. Because the Council has not taken a formal position on the bill, Larry explained that he was seeking guidance from the Committee. After discussion, Larry was advised to share the following with constituents regarding the SB1519:

- While the Council has not taken a formal position on SB1519, it does support the provision of necessary medical, dental and mental health care for children and adults with developmental disabilities.
- An amendment to the bill has saved dollars that would be appropriated to persons with developmental disabilities
- The Committee is aware that a significant number of large organizations have voiced their opposition to SB1519, including hospital and long-term care associations, managed care organizations, and a number of advocacy groups. This opposition as represented by lobbyists will have a measured affect on the fate of the bill.
- The bill has not gone to the full Senate and if passed will need to be heard and voted upon in the House before going to the Governor. Since the bill was not included in the Governor's budget plan, it is not known whether she will support the bill.
- Due to the serious impact of this proposed legislation if passed, Council staff will continue to monitor and advise Council members and consumers of significant changes.

E. Public Policy Analyst Consultant Contract

Larry provided information on his recommendations for a Public Policy Analyst to assist in managing policy related issues, including tracking pertinent legislation affecting persons with developmental disabilities and their families, writing and issuing legislative analysis pertaining to both proposed bills and existing statutes, researching public policy issues, creating additional liaisons and contacts within organizations and the legislature to facilitate greater information exchange, writing position and policy papers to reflect the needs of persons with developmental disabilities in Arizona and the goals and objectives of the ADDPC State Plan, and other public policy activities as needed.

Larry expressed his opinion that contracting for public policy analyst services would be the preferred approach, due to (1) not requiring an extended commitment of funds to a position, and (2) uncertainty regarding the potential reduction of federal funds to be awarded in upcoming grants. Larry indicated that he'd begun working with the Department of Economic Security Procurement Office, who was currently researching existing contractors for availability. It was pointed out, that if existing contractors could not be used, a new Request for Quote (RFQ) would be developed to solicit potential vendors who could assist in the process. Larry predicted that the process could be completed within 15-30 days. The allocated cost for use of a consultant consistent with State Procurement Rules guiding the RFQ process would be for a maximum of \$50,000, with the contract being for a one year period.

Upon discussion of the proposal the following action occurred:

- Motion was made by Joyce Millard Hoie to recommend funding the Public Policy Consultant as described by the Executive Director for a one year period, not to exceed \$50,000.
- The motion was seconded by Karla Phillips.
- Motion carried.

F. Webpage/Facebook- Increasing Effectiveness

Larry provided an update on improvements being made on the ADDPC website pertaining to legislative links and other public policy information. Through the efforts of a student intern, the ADDPC is also expanding into social networks, including Facebook and Twitter. As those sites develop, more information will be placed regarding legislative and public policy issues. Some discussion was held regarding the location of the ADDPC website. It was suggested that Larry research the possibility of establishing a non-affiliated state agency website, similar to the one operated for many years by the previous Council. Larry explained that he could begin investigating, but that making such a change would need to be approved by the Governor's Office and the State of Arizona Government Information Technology Agency. The following action was taken:

- Leslie Cohen made a motion that Larry Clausen begin investigating the potential for the ADDPC to establish a new website.
- The motion was seconded by Monica Cooper.
- Motion carried.

G. Business Updates and News

Committee members had no updates to share.

H. Future Meeting Date & Agenda Items

Due to the need to respond to emerging and ongoing issues, the Committee set another meeting to occur in March. The date and time selected is Wednesday, March 30, 2011, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

I. Call To The Public

No public representatives were present.

J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

Dated the 10th of March, 2011
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council